Survey to assess of Income Tax Department with Public

2658. SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE:

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some independent agencies have conducted nationwide survey to assess the attitudinal perception of the public about the Income Tax Department;

(b) if so, the outcome of the aforesaid study;

(c) whether this study shows any synchronisation with the purported projection of the Income Tax Department as a friend and guide of assessees; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor, and steps taken by the Government to improve it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Government is not aware of any nationwide survey conducted by independent agencies on the attitudinal perceptions of the public about the Income Tax Department.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

Fire in Coal Mines

2659. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of coalmines in different subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. where incidents of fire have been reported during each of the last three years subsidiary-wise;

(b) the loss suffered due to fire in these coalmines during the above mentioned period, subsidiary-wise;

(c) whether some of the coalmines are still burning;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) the efforts made/being made by the Government to save coalmines from fire and to put down the fire in these coalmines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) According to information furnished by Coal India Limited (CIL) the number of incidents of fire and financial loss on account of the same during the last three years (1994, 1995 & 1996) in subsidiaries of CIL are given below:-

Subsidiary Company	No. of mines where fire broke out			Financial loss (Rs. in lakhs)		
	94	95	96	94	95	96
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	12	24	19	732	25	30
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Central Coalfields Ltd.	—	—	1	—	—	—
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	—	—	1	—	—	10
Westen Coalfields Ltd.	4	1	2	—	—	—
South Eastern Coal fields Ltd.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	—	—	—	—	—	—

(c) and (d) None of the above fires are active. However, 47 old active fires, 38 fires in Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. and 9 fires in Eastern Coalfields Ltd. have been isolated and are under control.

(e) Following steps are being taken to prevent/control/minimise fires in the coal mines:-

(a) Restricting size of panel as per incubation period.

(b) Regular monitoring of CO, CO^2 and temperature in depillaring district for early detection of spontaneous heating.

(c) Clearing fallen coal from old working.

(e) Surface blanketing of cracks and filling of pot holes.

(f) Provision of liquid nitrogen for emergency.

(g) Establishing telephonic communication from working place to surface.

(h) Idle day inspection of old workings.

[Translation]

Economic Survey

2660. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item under the caption "Sarkar par Janta ko gumrah karne ka aarop" appearing in 'Navbharat Times' dated June 25, 1997.

(b) if so, whether the Government have done wrong analysis in its annual financial survey for the year 1996-97; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?